

## Walter BLOOMFIELD (1837-1906)

Walter was aged 20, single, literate, a groom from Suffolk when he arrived in Tasmania on board the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. Walter was the son of journeyman, shoemaker, John (1811-1896) and Lucy nee Wilkin (1811-1862). Walter was sponsored by Robert Wardlaw of Hobart Town and was discharged from the Quarantine Station, Impression Bay per 'Tommy' on the afternoon of 16 May 1858 to Robert Wardlaw at Swanport. Robert had been in Tasmania since 1823. He was highly regarded and was a JP and a councillor in the Fingal District.

Walter was probably a relative, of Ebenezer (1836-1918) as they both came from the same area in Suffolk and migrated on the 'Trade Wind'. Walter and Ebenezer settled in the same district in Tasmania as well.

Walter leased a property 'Armistead' at Kimberley from Messrs Foster on what was known as the Foster's Estate. A disastrous fire happened at this property in August 1899 and Walter was not insured. Lost in the fire was a barn, stable, four horses, 1,700 bushels of oats, three stacks of straw and other produce. Walter helped in the building of the old Mersey and Deloraine tramline.

Walter was married to, or in a relationship with, Hannah Hall who was born in Hobart on 19 November 1831 to convict parents, Henry and Mary nee Sullivan. Henry was convicted at Middlesex Gaol Delivery on 28 October 1824 for Larceny - stealing 6lbs of tea. He was transported for seven years on the 'Medina'. Mary was also convicted at London Gaol Delivery on 14 September 1826 for Larceny - stealing a coat, watch, gown and other items from her Mistress. She was sentenced to seven years transportation and embarked on the 'Persian', departing London on 14 April 1827 and arriving Hobart Town on 5 August 1827.

Walter and Hannah were believed to have at least five children. Birth registrations could not be found, however, on the marriage registration for daughter Grace (1871-1942) the name of her parents are recorded as Walter William Bloomfield and Hannah nee Hall.

Walter died on 26 February 1906 at the Devon Hospital, Latrobe, aged 67, suffering from a haemorrhage on the brain. Hannah Bloomfield died at New Norfolk in 1916.

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